

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John S. HENDRICKS

Serial No: New Application Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: September 28, 2001 Examiner: Unknown

Title: ELECTRONIC BOOK SELECTION AND DELIVERY SYSTEM HAVING
TEXT IN MULTIPLE FORMATS (Amended)
This is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/237,825, filed on January 27,
1999.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Title

Please change the title to read: "ELECTRONIC BOOK SELECTION AND DELIVERY
SYSTEM HAVING TEXT IN MULTIPLE FORMATS".

In the Specification

On page 1, lines 3-6, please change the paragraph to read as follows:

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/237,825, filed
January 27, 1999, which is a division of Serial No. 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, now
U.S. Patent No. 5,986,690, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No.

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08/160,194, filed December 9, 1993, all of which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-29 as follows.

10. A method for providing electronic books displayed on viewers, comprising:
receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;
converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a standard format;
storing the plurality of electronic books in the standard format; and
selectively providing the electronic books to subscribers in the standard format via the viewers.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a standard compressed format.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.

14. The method of claim 10, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.
15. The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with portable viewers for providing the electronic books.
16. The method of claim 10, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the viewers.
17. The method of claim 15, further including displaying a menu on the viewers providing indications of the electronic books.
18. The method of claim 17, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.
19. The method of claim 18 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.

20. An apparatus for providing electronic books, comprising:

an operations center for electronically communicating with viewers for providing electronic books, wherein the operations center executes a method comprising:
receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;
converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a standard format; storing the plurality of electronic books in the standard format; and selectively providing the electronic books to subscribers in the standard format via the viewers.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a standard compressed format.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.

25. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with portable viewers for providing the electronic books.

26. The apparatus of claim 20, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the viewers.
27. The apparatus of claim 25, further including displaying a menu on the viewers providing indications of the electronic books.
28. The apparatus of claim 27, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.
29. The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.

REMARKS

Applicant files the present division to claim additional disclosed embodiments. Applicant has amended the title to reflect the inventions now claimed. Claims 10-29 are pending. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

9/28/01

Date:

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-Up Copy of Specification Amendments

The text on page 1, lines 3-6, is changed as follows:

[This application is divisional of application Serial Number 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, which is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial Number 08/160,194, entitled ADVANCED SET-TOP TERMINAL FOR CABLE TELEVISION DELIVERY SYSTEMS, filed December 9, 1993.]

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/237,825, filed January 27, 1999, which is a division of Serial No. 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,986,690, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/160,194, filed December 9, 1993, all of which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

Clean Copy of Pending Claims

10. A method for providing electronic books displayed on viewers, comprising:
receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;
converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a standard format;
storing the plurality of electronic books in the standard format; and
selectively providing the electronic books to subscribers in the standard format via the viewers.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a standard compressed format.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.
14. The method of claim 10, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.
15. The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with portable viewers for providing the electronic books.

16. The method of claim 10, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the viewers.
17. The method of claim 15, further including displaying a menu on the viewers providing indications of the electronic books.
18. The method of claim 17, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.
19. The method of claim 18 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.
20. An apparatus for providing electronic books, comprising:
an operations center for electronically communicating with viewers for providing electronic books, wherein the operations center executes a method comprising:
receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;
converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a standard format; storing the plurality of electronic books in the standard format; and selectively providing the electronic books to subscribers in the standard format via the viewers.

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21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a standard compressed format.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.

25. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with portable viewers for providing the electronic books.

26. The apparatus of claim 20, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the viewers.

27. The apparatus of claim 25, further including displaying a menu on the viewers providing indications of the electronic books.

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28. The apparatus of claim 27, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.

29. The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.

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